

Dear Mr. Breger

I have lived in Russell MA. since 1971 with my wife Ginny. From 1959 to 1966 I worked at The Westfield River Paper Co in Russell. I was employed along with 125 other workers in the production of glassine paper. I left the mill in 1966 to go to college, it took until 1974 to get my BSE @ W.S.C. (I did it nights) I was employed at The U of M from 1967 to 1971 and at W.S.C. from 1967 to 2008 as a Laboratory Technician!

Russell has always been a mill town but in 1994 the mill shut down because of foreign competition! This site has remained vacant for 17 years, until a biomass company asked our selectboard, planning board and our zoning board to move into town! The main opposition to this new company came from residents on Main Street and on Rte 20 that will have 100 trucks a day driving by their houses! We live three houses from Rte 20 and will be affected. However, we believe that our country needs industry and most jobs are being sent to Mexico and China! We need jobs for American workers like Russell provided in the past!

We are sure that our N.I.M.B.Y. neighbors are trying to kill this project! Will you please listen to scientific fact on this valuable new industry that will turn waste wood into electricity that will light and warm our homes!

Bill and Ginny Hardie